

RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF PETERSFIELD

A N N U A L R E P O R T

of the
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
and
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the year 1970

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CONTENTS

Page Number

Adulterations of Food	45-46
Animal Boarding Establishments	49
Births	12
Caravans	7, 30-32
Child Health Clinics	9
Children's Department	11
Condemned Food	44
Council Housing	6-7
Deaths	14-16
Environment, The	4-8
Factories	49
Family Doctor Service	8
Food Hygiene	7-8, 41
Gastro-intestinal Infections	17-18
General Report of the Medical Officer of Health	3-8
Home Help Service	10
Hospitals	8
Housing	6-7, 35-40
Immunisation	19-20
Improvement Grants	38-40
Infant Deaths	13-14
Infectious and Notifiable Diseases	17-19
Inspection and Supervision of Food	41-46
Inspections and Visits	34
Insect Infestation	32-33
Knackers Yards	42
Local Government Reform	3-4
Meals on Wheels	11
Meat and other Foods	42-43
Meat Inspection	43
Milk Supply	42, 45-46
Moveable Dwellings	32
Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting	9
Offices and Shops	30
Pail Closet Emptying	28
Personal Health Services	8-11
Petersfield Rural District	2
Pollution	4-5
Poultry	44-45
Rainfall	26-27
Refuse Collection and Disposal	5, 28-29
Rivers and Streams	26
Rodent Control	47-48
Rubella Immunisation	20

	<u>Page Number</u>
Scarlet Fever	18
Schools	32
Scrap Metal Dealers	49
Sewage Disposal	5-6
Slaughterhouses	42
Slaughtermen, Licensing of	43
Social Services	4, 9
Staff	4
Tuberculosis	19
Vaccination for Travellers	21
Vital Statistics	12-16
Voluntary Services	11
Water Supplies	6, 24-25
Welfare Department	10

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RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL OF PETERSFIELD

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Chairman of the Public Health Committee: Mr. D.J. Holliday

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for the year 1971-1972

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Medical Officer of Health

A.G. Farr, M.B.E., M.A., M.B., B.Chir., D.P.H.,
D.T.M. & H., D.I.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector

A. Swan, A.R.S.H., F.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspectors

J.L. Cort, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.
L.W. Eckersley, D.P.A.(Lond.), M.A.P.H.I.

Trainee Public Health Inspector

A.R. Hearl

Clerks

Mrs. S.A. Andrews
Miss A.B. Strachan

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Rural District Council of Petersfield.

A. G. Farr, M.B.E.

M.A., M.B., B.CHIR., D.P.H., D.T.M. & H., D.I.H.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

TELEPHONE

PETERSFIELD 2511/2/3.

*Health Department,
The Old College,
Petersfield,
Hants.*

To the Chairman and Members of the
Petersfield Rural District Council:

Sir,

I have the honour to present my report for the year 1970. As has been my practice, I have included comment on various matters of concern to the public health as well as factual reporting and any additional comment here would be superfluous.

I am glad to have this opportunity of expressing my thanks to you, to the Chairman of the Public Health Committee and to Members for their support as well as to all my colleagues on the Council's staff and in particular to the members of the Public Health Department.

As well, I am greatly helped in my work by co-operation from doctors, nurses, teachers, social workers and many voluntary organisations and I am grateful to them all.

Yours sincerely,



Medical Officer of Health
Petersfield Rural District Council

PETERSFIELD RURAL DISTRICT

The district forms part of the eastern boundary of Hampshire, its eastern boundary being Surrey in the north and West Sussex in the south. The South Downs traverse the district from east to west, dividing it into northern and southern halves. There are no large rivers, the extreme north of the district draining into the Wey basin to the Thames, the eastern part via the Rother to the Channel and part of the western area via the Meon to Southampton Water. The main London to Portsmouth road and railway traverse the district from north to south, the Midhurst/Winchester road from east to west. These roads cross at Petersfield, the small country town lying just north of the gap in the Downs through which the London/Portsmouth road and railway pass. This town and an adjacent area forms the separate urban district of Petersfield.

Much of the district is noted for its beauty and is scheduled as such. Different forms of agriculture are practised throughout the district but, in general, in the south, the farms are smaller in area and there is more horticulture, on the downland there is more arable and stock farming with dairy farming in the valleys. There is some fruit farming and timber growing.

There are few light and no heavy industries in the district but with the proximity of Portsmouth in the south and London and the "outer London belt" in the north, many residents find their employment outside the district. There is considerable pressure for housing development all through the district, but this is strictly controlled. Main development in the south has been in Horndean and Catherington which are close to the rapidly expanding urban district of Havant and Waterloo and in the north it has been around Liss and Liphook for "commuters" who work in London.

	As at 1/4/70	As at 1/4/71
Area in acres	54,758	54,758
Estimated population	30,740	30,540
Number of domestic rateable hereditaments	9,346	9,505
Rateable value	£970,319	£993,033
Sum represented by a penny rate	£3,859	£3,959.40
Uniform general rate	10/10	66p

GENERAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

GENERAL COMMENTS

Local Government Reform

When writing upon this subject a year ago, it seemed probable that the "unitary" system recommended by the majority of the Redcliffe-Maud commission would be implemented, at least in just over half the country. The position now appears to be irrevocably changed in that the principle of two tiers of local government authorities has been adopted and a definite time table for the reform laid down, albeit a very tight one. The government proposes few geographical changes in the boundaries of the new counties and surely this is sensible; the previous proposals involved wholesale administrative and geographical changes.

The administrative changes will be very large for both tiers of the new authorities and there will be great geographical as well as administrative changes in the new districts to be formed within the counties. A principle to be welcomed is enunciated in paragraph 21 of the White Paper which foresees a unified staff structure for planning between county and district authorities. This sort of system applies to many district Medical Officers of Health under the existing local government and it is one which can be operated satisfactorily. There would seem to be scope for an extension to other services as well as planning - for example, environmental control. If this is done, it could do much to bring about a better understanding between the county and district authorities.

The White Paper makes it clear that the re-organisation of the National Health Service will take place at the same time as the reform of local government. This means that in three years' time, the post of Medical Officer of Health will cease to exist and that local authorities will lose the personal health services they now provide. At the time of writing, the proposals for the re-organisation of the National Health Service are awaited but it seems essential that both the new county and district authorities are going to need medical advice. Has the joint appointment possibilities in this sphere? There is precedent in the growing practice of joint appointments between Hospital Boards and Local Authorities, most notably in the specialist staffing in the School Health Service. These joint appointments have worked well and perhaps it would be a good thing if those future "community physicians" who will be required to advise the new local authorities on the health of the community were to have a proportion of their salaries paid by the authorities they will advise.

The Social Services

The dissolution of Parliament in 1970 led to the enactment of the Social Services Bill "on the nod" and with virtually no amendment. Future social historians are likely to see this as a major error in timing. The new Departments of Social Services will just about be beginning to function efficiently when in many cases they will be reformed after a mere three years of existence. This can only mean that the quality of the service to those needing it must suffer.

The whole episode of the Seeborn Committee and the Social Services Act is extraordinary. Previously, an "emerging" profession has first sought authority to register people practising it and to lay down standards of training for new entrants. In this way, there is built up a body of people having a similar basic qualification. The new Social Services Departments have field staff trained in one of as many as ten widely differing fields; these staff will need re-training in several new subjects to make them competent to deal with problems, for example, of mental illness, fostering, adoption, the care of the handicapped or elderly. Reform was needed; it seems to have come about in a way that puts the cart before the horse.

STAFF

The 1969 Housing Act increased the amount that can be paid in improvement grants and also widened the range of work qualifying for grant. It was decided that on the retirement of the Senior Building Inspector, improvement grant work would be transferred from the Surveyor's Department back to the Public Health Department, and that a pupil Health Inspector would be engaged. Mr. Arthur Hearl was appointed to this post on the 1st July, 1971. He attends Highbury Technical College on the "sandwich" course for training Health Inspectors which means that for about six months in the year he is available for work in the district and for the other six months he is on full-time study.

Miss Jane Farmer resigned her post as clerk early in the new year; Miss Anthea Strachan being appointed in her place. There were no other staff changes.

THE ENVIRONMENT

Pollution

1970 was a year in which we were exhorted to take heed of the ways in which man is polluting the air, land, waters and seas of the world. It was appropriate that two reports should be published, one on sewage disposal and the other on the disposal of trade wastes. A third committee, which is examining water conservation and utilisation, reported early in 1971, as did

Pollution - continued

a working party on refuse disposal.

The safe disposal of poisonous waste material (most commonly resulting from manufacturing processes) is of concern even to a "rural" rural district council such as Petersfield. To deal properly with some of the dangerous waste products of industry today requires resources in skill and equipment possessed by only the largest local authorities; many take advantage of the loophole provided in the law allowing them to refuse to accept "trade" wastes. A direct result of their negative policy has been the rapid increase of contractors who collect and dispose of waste materials. Unhappily, it is difficult to check on the activities of such firms and not all of them are above suspicion, as was shown by a case in Birmingham. The city officials spent months trying to trace the source of large quantities of acid getting into the sewers. By a series of tests they narrowed it down until one Saturday afternoon, by peering through a chink in a locked entrance door, a tanker was seen discharging into a sewer. The prosecutor in the subsequent proceedings said the investigation alone had cost over £1,000 (the report made no mention of damage to sewers). The firm of contractors was fined the maximum of £60 plus £20 analyst's fees.

There is a need for facilities for the treatment and safe disposal of poisonous waste material and this should be provided by local government. The disposal of domestic refuse in cities or districts with dense populations will require the provision of complicated plants in the near future as space for tipping is no longer available; such a plant will provide the skilled staff necessary and some if not all of the plant. Most industrialists would welcome such a service and would be prepared to pay for it and it would be a protection to a rural area such as Petersfield district where there are many remote places in which it is easy to dump waste material.

Refuse Collection and Disposal

As planned, a weekly kerbside refuse collection was instituted throughout the district in April, when the few remaining villages were brought into the weekly scheme. Disposal continued to be made by controlled tipping at the old chalk pit in Buriton parish, where refuse from the Urban District Council is also received. During the preceding year, a start was made with the provision of amenities for the employees at the tip and these were finished during the year. There is a rest room, running hot and cold water and toilet facilities.

Sewage Disposal

The enlargement of the Passfield sewage purification works, needed to

Sewage Disposal - continued

deal with the planned extension of sewers in Bramshott parish, was completed at the end of the year.

It proved necessary to apply for a compulsory purchase order to obtain land on which to build the purification works for the small Steep Marsh sewerage scheme as the owner was unwilling to sell and alternative sites suggested had disadvantages. An enquiry into the matter was held early in 1971.

By arrangement with Havant Urban District, sewage from Horndean, Catherington and Clanfield is received into their system but the trunk sewers proved inadequate and until remedial works were completed, restriction was made on any building development in this area. Work on the Waterlooville trunk sewers was completed during the year. This had affected new housing projects including flats for the elderly with a warden service planned by the Council in Horndean.

Water Supplies

The southern half of the district is supplied by Portsmouth Water Company, the northern half by the Mid-Southern Water Company. Both carry out regular testing of the supplies, of which we receive summarised reports. Supplies in 1970 were satisfactory in quality and in quantity except in the case of a residential institution operated by Hampshire which lies in the area of another county. During the summer drought, the mains supply to this institution was inadequate. Help was provided by an Army unit which sent a water bowser. The Health Department heard of the incident by accident some months later and the County authorities were informed that it looked as though the water suppliers were in breach of their agreement and that their attention should be drawn to their obligations.

Housing

Units

Council Housing

Occupied at 31.12.69	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,242
Completed in 1970	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	47*
Occupied at 31.12.70	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,292

* Liss - 39 (Mill Field Estate) and Rowlands Castle - 8 (Broad Croft)

Housing - continued

Units

Private Building

Completed in 1968	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	161
Completed in 1969	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	173
Completed in 1970	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	183*

* Bramshott - 25, Buriton - 1, Clanfield - 6, East Meon - 1, Froxfield - 3, Greatham - 1, Horndean - 29, Liss - 78, Rowlands Castle - 36, Steep - 3.

There was some slight increase in the number of private buildings completed during the year. New housing by the Council was at the same level as in the previous year.

Mention has already been made of the Department again assuming responsibility for the administration of housing improvement grants; the 1969 Housing Act substantially increased the maxima of discretionary grants, widened the scope of work which could be grant-aided and removed many of the strings previously attached to them. It was a determined attempt to promote the rehabilitation of the great number of ageing, ill-maintained homes, supported by quite a volume of publicity. The Council's policy has been to apply this part of the Act vigorously and the number of enquiries dealt with and grants approved have shown a substantial increase. Details will be found in the Chief Public Health Inspector's report.

Caravans

For some years, the Council has been seeking a suitable site in the south of the district on which to develop a caravan site and a planning application was made for development of a caravan site at Rowlands Castle sewage works. It is intended to dispose of the sewage now treated at these works direct to the Havant sewers and when this happens, the Rowlands Castle works will no longer be needed. Permission was refused and it was decided to appeal against this decision.

There was some progress with the rehabilitation of Bircholt Road.

Food Hygiene

No incidents of illness attributable to unsatisfactory food hygiene

Food Hygiene - continued

were reported in the district. This does not mean that there no occurrences of this sort but it is reasonable to assume that nothing involving numbers of people occurred.

All meat produced at the single small abattoir in the district was inspected and food premises throughout the district were inspected. Details will be found in the Chief Public Health Inspector's report.

Several visits were made to the premises of one of the two knackers operating in the district and Doctor Payne, Director of the Portsmouth Public Health Laboratory came on one of these visits, which arose from an incident in another district, in which an elderly lady was seriously ill as a result of infection with *Salmonella typhimurium*. The cause of her illness was not ascertained for more than two weeks had elapsed before the diagnosis was made but the possibility existed that her infection originated from pet food. Since 1969, all condemned meat sold for pet food has had to be sterilised (by cooking) before sale. However, it is possible for the meat to be contaminated during packing. Investigation of the premises showed this to be the case and there were discussions with the owner regarding structural alterations which would lessen this risk.

In carrying out environmental control measures, the staff of the Department are helped by Doctor Payne and his staff at Portsmouth Public Health Laboratory and by the County Inspector of Weights and Measures (Mr. Preston) and his staff and we are grateful for their help.

PERSONAL HEALTH SERVICES

Hospitals

Within the district lie King George's Hospital, Liphook (Geriatric), The Grange Maternity Home, Liss and Wenham Holt Convalescent Home, Rake. In Petersfield town are the small General Hospital, under the supervision of local doctors, where consultant out-patients are held and "Heathside", a small geriatric hospital. Most of the district looks to Portsmouth for its main hospital services, though in the northern parishes, Winchester, Alton, Haslemere and Guildford are used. The King Edward VII Hospital at Midhurst is also used for chest complaints.

The original "Cheshire Home" at Le Court continues to operate and there is a small private nursing home at Hill Brow.

Family Doctor Service

No change occurred in 1970.

Nursing, Midwifery and Health Visiting

Mrs. Oakley, District Nurse/Midwife and Health Visitor attached to the practice of Doctors Ker and Hardwick, was made an assistant area nursing officer in the Winchester area. Her place was taken by Miss Leech. Miss Brown, Health Visitor, became attached to Doctors Connor and Inglis' practice.

Child Health Clinics

The following table shows attendances at County Council clinics in 1970:-

Clinic	Number attending born in			Total children	Total attendances
	1970	1969	1965-68		
Clanfield	30	38	54	122	900
East Meon	10	21	25	56	564
Horndean	97	98	97	292	2207
Liphook	41	57	52	150	1199
Liss	86	109	42	237	1286
Petersfield	109	135	173	407	2636
Rowlands Castle	20	17	10	47	458

Study of the table above shows that in the more populous centres, these clinics are well used. Although the numbers are much fewer in some of the smaller centres, they represent a valuable service to mothers who might otherwise be faced with a difficult journey to a surgery.

Voluntary helpers play an important part in all clinics, and we are grateful to them for their help.

Social Services

This report is concerned with 1970 but it is desirable to remind the reader that as from the 1st April, 1971, a new Department of the County Council was established, known as the Social Services Department but quite distinct from the Department of Health and Social Security of the central government. This new Department combines the previous Children's and Welfare Departments and includes the Home Help and Mental Welfare services previously included in the County Health Department.

Home Help Service (Petersfield Rural and Urban Districts)

Applications received and investigated	..	..	..	122
Assisted	..	..	..	68
Advance bookings	..	..	..	1

On Register - 31.12.70 .. 18 Home Helps
4 Good Neighbours

Type of case assisted

Aged	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	135
Chronic	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16
Maternity	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Post Hospital	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
Others	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5

TOTAL: 169

There was a slight reduction in the number of cases dealt with in 1970. Much more significant was a drop of six in the number of helps and one in the number of "Good Neighbours" in the service at the end of the year. The need for help in the home has increased, the ability to give that assistance has been sharply reduced.

Most people who are chronically incapacitated, either by age or by handicap, prefer to remain in their own home as long as possible, and this makes economic sense too. But for this to be possible some domestic help is needed in many cases. Unless there is some re-appraisal of the status and salary of the home help, so that the numbers increase rather than the opposite, the whole policy of keeping people in their own homes will fall down.

Mental Welfare

There was no change in the arrangements for this service in 1970.

Welfare Department

The social worker mostly concerned with this district was Miss Shott. A close liaison was maintained with the Emsworth office of the Welfare Department which was responsible for Petersfield Rural District. This was aided by regular meetings of social workers, Health Visitors and others concerned held every two months.

Children's Department

From time to time we are involved in cases in which the Children's Department is also concerned; Petersfield Rural District was under the Havant Children's office.

Voluntary Services

Most people who find themselves in difficulty are helped by relatives, neighbours or other friends. Many are helped by voluntary organisations, such as church workers, clubs for the elderly and many other groups and it is really only a minority who are dealt with by the various local and central government statutory agencies. Hampshire County Council uses some of the "voluntary" organisations as agents to carry out certain of its welfare responsibilities. The W.R.V.S. is particularly concerned with the "Meals on Wheels" service, details of which are given below:-

Number of meals served in each parish - 1970/71

Parish	Estimated Population	Number of Meals Served 1970/71
Bramshott	7,216	1,409
Greatham/Hawkley	1,034	549
Horndean/Clanfield	10,350	1,766
Liss	5,077	2,063
Rowlands Castle	2,135	453
Steep/Froxfield	1,846	1,027

The delivery of this number of meals in a rural area where population is sparse in places represents a considerable effort, both in planning and execution and we are grateful to all those helpers who make this possible. We are fortunate in having meals supplied for this service from E.S.D. at Liphook, Bedales School and a volunteer group at the Horndean Community Centre. Rowlands Castle is supplied through Havant W.R.V.S. and they continue to do this although the demand on their organisation has become very great.

The British Red Cross Society is active in several fields; they act as the County Council's agents for the storage and distribution of home nursing equipment and they also run chiropody clinics and clubs for the elderly and for the disabled. The Hampshire Council for Social Service is also interested in welfare for the elderly and in other fields of social work.

VITAL STATISTICS

To be valid, statistics must be derived from a sufficient number of observations. Some of the statistics and the rates derived from them which follow are not significant for this reason:

Births

YEAR		1966	1967	1968	1969	1970
Total estimated population		28700	29710	30280	30740	30540
LIVE BIRTHS (Legitimate)	Male	242	253	233	248	228
	Female	220	227	195	212	197
	TOTAL	462	480	428	460	425
LIVE BIRTHS (Illegitimate)	Male	9	17	19	16	16
	Female	22	13	25	16	15
	TOTAL	31	30	44	32	31
TOTAL LIVE BIRTHS		493	510	472	492	456
BIRTH RATES Live Births/1000 population	CRUDE RATE	17.2	17.2	15.6	16.0	14.9
	CORRECTED RATE	17.2	17.0	15.4	15.8	14.8
	ENGLAND & WALES	17.7	17.2	16.9	16.3	16.0
ILLEGITIMATE LIVE BIRTHS PER CENT TOTAL LIVE BIRTHS	PETERSFIELD R.D.	6.3%	5.9%	9.3%	7%	6.8%
	ENGLAND & WALES	-	-	-	8%	8%
STILL BIRTHS	Legitimate	10	2	5	-	5
	Illegitimate	1	-	1	-	4
	TOTAL	11	2	6	-	9
STILL BIRTH RATE PER 1000 BIRTHS (live and still)		21.8	3.9	12.5	-	19
TOTAL LIVE AND STILL BIRTHS		504	512	478	492	465

Infant Deaths

Infant Mortality

Deaths of children under one year of age

	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970
Legitimate	6	4	6	4	3
Illegitimate	2	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	8	4	6	4	3

Infant Mortality Rates

	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970
Infant mortality rate (deaths under 1 year per 1000 live births)	16.2	7.8	13.0	8.0	7.0
England and Wales	19.0	18.3	18.0	18.0	18.0

Neo Natal Mortality

Deaths of infants under 4 weeks of age

	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970
Legitimate	5	4	4	3	2
Illegitimate	1	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	6	4	4	3	2

Neo Natal Mortality Rates

	Petersfield R.D.		England & Wales	
	1969	1970	1969	1970
Neo natal mortality rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1000 total live births)	6.0	4.0	12.0	12.0
EARLY neo natal mortality rate (deaths under 1 week per 1000 total live births)	6.0	4.0	10.0	11.0
PERINATAL mortality rate (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week per 1000 total live and stillbirths).	6.0	24.0	23.0	23.0

Infant Deaths - continued

The numbers from which the Petersfield rates are calculated are too small for them to be validly compared with the national rates. Nevertheless it is obviously not a bad sign that all except the perinatal mortality rate are below the national rate. This has been influenced by the number of stillbirths (9). In 1969, there were no stillbirths, which was most unusual.

Deaths

Deaths - Petersfield Rural District - 1970

YEAR		1966	1967	1968	1969	1970
Total estimated population		28,700	29,710	20,280	30,740	30,540
DEATHS	Male	156	124	179	165	157
	Female	132	138	154	134	151
	TOTAL	288	262	333	299	308
CRUDE DEATH RATE (Petersfield R.D.)		10.0	8.8	11.0	9.7	10.1
CORRECTED DEATH RATE PER 1000 POPULATION (Petersfield R.D.)		10.1	7.6	9.8	8.4	8.4
DEATH RATE (England and Wales)		11.7	11.2	11.9	11.9	11.7

Deaths - continued

Deaths - Petersfield Rural District - 1970

CAUSE	Male	Female	TOTAL
Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	1	1
Malignant neoplasm - buccal cavity, etc.	1	-	1
Malignant neoplasm - oesophagus	2	1	3
Malignant neoplasm - stomach	2	2	4
Malignant neoplasm - intestine	5	3	8
Malignant neoplasm - lung, bronchus	10	1	11
Malignant neoplasm - breast	1	7	8
Malignant neoplasm - uterus	-	3	3
Malignant neoplasm - prostate	3	-	3
Leukaemia	1	1	2
Other malignant neoplasms	9	12	21
Benign and unspecified neoplasms	1	1	2
Diabetes mellitus	1	-	1
Other endocrine, etc. diseases	1	1	2
Anaemias	2	-	2
Other diseases of nervous system	1	1	2
Chronic rheumatic heart disease	-	3	3
Hypertensive disease	1	7	8
Ischaemic heart disease	37	32	69
Other forms of heart disease	5	6	11
Cerebrovascular disease	22	36	58
Other diseases of circulatory system	5	8	13
Influenza	11	3	14
Pneumonia	10	9	19
Bronchitis and emphysema	7	4	11
Other diseases of respiratory system	1	2	3
Peptic ulcer	1	1	2
Other diseases of digestive system	2	-	2
Nephritis and nephrosis	1	-	1
Other diseases, genito-urinary system	1	1	2
Diseases of musculo-skeletal system	3	1	4
Congenital anomalies	1	-	1
Other causes of perinatal mortality	1	1	2
Symptoms and ill-defined conditions	-	1	1
Motor vehicle accidents	4	1	5
All other accidents	2	1	3
Suicide and self-inflicted injuries	2	-	2
TOTALS	157	151	308

Deaths - continued

Age at Death - Petersfield Rural District - 1970

AGE GROUP	MALE		FEMALE		TOTAL	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Over 75 years	79	50%	94	62%	173	56%
Over 65 years	118	75%	128	84%	246	79%

Main Causes of Death Petersfield Rural District

DISEASE	MALE		FEMALE		TOTAL		%age of all deaths	
	1969	1970	1969	1970	1969	1970	1969	1970
Cancer of the stomach	-	2	1	2	1	4		
" lung	11	10	3	1	14	11		
" breast	-	1	6	7	6	8		
" uterus	-	-	3	3	3	3		
Other forms of cancer	11	21	10	17	21	38		
TOTAL deaths from cancer	22	34	23	30	45	64	15%	21%
"Stroke"	22	22	20	36	42	58	14%	19%
Coronary heart disease	51	37	29	32	80	69	27%	22%

62% of all deaths were due to the three causes shown in the table above.

INFECTIOUS AND NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

Notifications, 1970

Disease	Number of cases
Acute meningitis	1
Infectious hepatitis	2
Malaria	1
Measles	102
Scarlet fever	27
S.heidelberg	1
S.indiana	2
S.typhimurium	3
S.typhoid	1
Whooping cough	2
Tuberculosis	1

Gastro-intestinal infections

"Typhoid Fever" is still an evocative term. Although there is now effective treatment for this disease and in countries with developed medical services, the case fatality rate for typhoid is lower than for other forms of food poisoning. The press are always interested in typhoid and are usually good for a "scare" headline; they are seldom interested in the more mundane "food poisoning" which kills about ten times as many people as typhoid in Britain.

The first case of typhoid to occur in this district for a number of years was a classic in several respects. First, the probable source of infection. The victim was on a Mediterranean cruise, and supped off shellfish in Naples. The following day, he had a mild intestinal upset which passed off - a not uncommon story. Thereafter, his illness developed very gradually after disembarking. He remained at home being looked after by friends and neighbours and rejecting his doctor's advice to be admitted to hospital until he was so ill that clearly this was the only course. He was admitted about the time the illness was beginning to remit naturally and it was then

Gastro-intestinal infections - continued

that the diagnosis was made. He made a good recovery but continued to excrete the germ for many weeks. This was anticipated in view of the various methods of treatment that had been tried. The missed diagnosis and the long period of excretion are both common enough.

He had about 1,000 travelling companions on the ship. Should they all be traced? By the time the diagnosis was confirmed, the incubation period was almost elapsed and so it was decided not to do this. This decision was correct, no further case occurred. He had one companion on his Naples jaunt, name unknown but hailing from Scotland and a baker by trade. The baker was traced and found free of infection, as were all who had helped to care for the patient at home. The final moral to this incident - the patient had not had T.A.B. vaccine.

One case of infection with S.typhimurium was in a pupil at a residential school who had been sent home with persistent symptoms of gastro-enteritis. Enquiry of the school doctor elicited the fact that a number of pupils had had similar symptoms for some three weeks. It appeared likely that we were faced with a substantial outbreak but in fact a test of kitchen staff and affected pupils were all negative. The source of this infection was never ascertained.

In another case of this infection, the source was raw milk and the focus of infection was in a neighbouring district, where it is understood there were a further four human cases.

The other case was in an adult and here again no source could be found; in the course of investigations the patient's husband was found to be carrying the infection but as his infection was not officially notified, he is not included in the table above.

The two cases of S.indiana were in a little girl and her mother. There was a history of stomach upset following a Sunday school party some two weeks prior to the diagnosis being made but no other cases of this infection were known in the area.

Scarlet fever

There was an increase in the number of cases. This arose from a persistent infection which seemed to centre on a large primary school in the south of the district. It is very difficult to deal with outbreaks of this nature in a day school as opposed to a residential school. Even closure of the school for a long period is not necessarily effective. The infections appeared to die out in the first quarter of 1971.

Tuberculosis

Tuberculosis - 1970

	PULMONARY			NON-PULMONARY		
	Male	Female	TOTAL	Male	Female	TOTAL
<u>Additions 1970</u>						
New cases	-	1	1	-	-	-
Transfers in	-	1	1	-	-	-
<u>Deletions 1970</u>						
Cured	-	-	-	-	-	-
Deaths	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transfers out	-	-	-	-	-	-
Register as at 31.12.70	36	31	67	2	1	3

The new case of pulmonary tuberculosis notified was in a middle aged woman. The disease was not infectious to others. In my 1969 report, I commented upon the difficulty being experienced in notification of tuberculosis. This case was a further example of this. The patient was notified from a hospital in another district some time after the initial diagnosis. The local chest physician was informed by us and sent a Health Visitor to call regarding contacts, as at this stage the case was not known to be non-infectious. Her visit was most unwelcome, a rather unusual attitude which became understandable when the patient explained that she had been told she was no danger to others. As a result of this incident, I hope we have evolved a better understanding with the hospital staff.

B.C.G. immunisation against tuberculosis was offered to secondary school children in their thirteenth year as has been the usual practice.

IMMUNISATION

The national immunisation programme is kept under continual review and at the end of 1968 alterations in the recommended programme in infancy and childhood were made. In infancy, the primary courses against diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough ("triple") and poliomyelitis are now given together but do not start until the sixth month and are more spaced out.

Immunisation - continued

It is found that in this way, the reinforcing ("booster") dose at eighteen months is not necessary. Measles immunisation is now included in the schedule.

Booster doses for diphtheria, tetanus and poliomyelitis are now recommended at school entry (5 years) and for tetanus and poliomyelitis at school leaving (15 years), rather than at age 8. This caused an alteration in the school clinics programme but the total numbers involved were reduced.

School Immunisation Clinics, 1970

Number of schools circulated	13
Number of forms returned	502
Number of children fully protected	138 (27½%)
Number of children not previously immunised ..	17 (3½%)
Against Poliomyelitis	9 (2%)
Against Diphtheria/Tetanus	7 (1½%)
Against Smallpox	14 (3%)
Number refusing immunisation	24 (5%)
Number attending family doctor	182 (36%)
Number of children immunised at school clinic	126 (25%)
Against Poliomyelitis	119 (24%)
Against Diphtheria/Tetanus	123 (24½%)
Number absent from clinic	15 (3%)

German Measles

All 13 year old schoolgirls were offered immunisation against German measles (rubella) and this necessitated a good deal of extra organisation. Most chose to be immunised at school and many attend schools outside this district. Clinics were arranged at two local schools and vaccine was supplied to family doctors in cases where parents had chosen to have the immunisation carried out by them.

Rubella Immunisation Clinics, 1970

Number of schools supplied	2
Number immunised at school	91
Number immunised by family doctor	41

IMMUNISATION OF TRAVELLERS

Under international agreement, travellers arriving in any country from one which is declared to be infected may be required to produce a valid international certificate (on the prescribed form) of immunisation against any of the following three diseases:-

Smallpox

Valid for three years, effective eight days after successful primary vaccination or immediately upon re-vaccination.

Cholera

Valid for six months. Effective from second injection unless given within six months of previous immunisation.

Both Smallpox and Cholera vaccinations can be given by general practitioners but need verification by the Medical Officer of Health. It is wise to give your doctor notice so that he may order the appropriate vaccine.

Yellow Fever

Available only at certain specified centres by appointment, of which the nearest are Southampton and London. A fee may be charged. Valid for ten years.

Cholera and/or Yellow Fever immunisation are normally required only for travel to Asia, Africa or South America. Consult the air or shipping line.

The following immunisations are not obligatory but are advised as a sensible precaution if travelling in Europe or elsewhere:-

Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers

Poliomyelitis

Malaria is a dangerous disease of many countries; drugs to prevent this disease should be taken during visits to such countries and for four weeks afterwards. The Government issues a pamphlet "Hints to Travellers" available at all travel agents which contains some good advice.

Finally, leave plenty of time for all these procedures - at least one month.

Rural District Council of Petersfield.

A. Swan A.R.S.H., F.A.P.H.I.

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

TELEPHONE

PETERSFIELD 2511/2/3.

*Public Health Department,
The Old College,
Petersfield,
Hants*

To the Chairman and Members of the
Petersfield Rural District Council:

Sir,

I beg to submit my Annual Report for the year 1970 on the sanitary circumstances of the area and the duties for which I am responsible.

In this Rural District, there has been a trend of thought and action away from the terms "fitness" and "unfitness" as applied to houses. Properties are being classed as "modernised" or "suitable for conversion" and the qualifying standards in people's minds are the standard amenities listed in the 1969 Housing Act. Desirable features are those commonly known as the "twelve points" and apply to houses which will provide accommodation for at least thirty years and are of a good general standard. These attitudes have resulted partly from national and local publicity about improvement grants and regulated tenancies but have also been influenced by estate agents' particulars of sale.

The caravan problem within the district is no greater but the number of enquiries about all types of site seems to grow annually. The turnover on the few small residential sites in the area is very limited and there are of course no holiday sites. The one small touring site serves a need. We continue to emphasise the need for care as far as fire precautions and fire fighting are concerned and, of course, the newer caravans do not present such a fire risk as the older types.

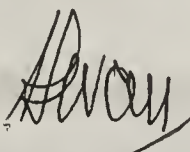
There was a noticeable increase in tented camping but this was not on sufficient scale to present problems. I think the trend will be to increase and a working party has been studying this subject at national level.

Over the last 25 years, the Council has co-operated with the training of many Public Health Inspectors who, as students or trainees, were members of H.M. Forces or attached to other local authorities. You have now

appointed a trainee in the Department who is attending a course and has to visit adjoining districts as part of his training.

I have no other points to draw to your particular attention. General information appears in the attached report.

I am grateful to the Public Health Committee for their support and to my colleagues for their ready help throughout the year.



Chief Public Health Inspector

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water

Supplies from all sources proved adequate during the year and there was no shortage of mains water.

The Water Undertakers of the Rural District are:-

(a) Portsmouth Water Company, West Street, Havant

This Company supplies the parishes of Clanfield, Horndean and Rowlands Castle.

(b) Mid Southern Water Company, Frimley Green, Camberley

This Company now supplies the remaining parishes.

Out of 9,605 dwellings, the following are the only ones which do not have a Company's main supply tap indoors:

External standpipes (mains) (70 of these are caravans)	..	..	75
Rainwater	..	..	10
Ram	..	..	3
Spring (these are all piped from the same estate supply)	..	..	7
Well (24 of these are private chlorinated piped supplies	..	..	41

The following table shows the domestic water supplies in the various parishes. Remoteness accounts largely for the comparatively few houses not yet served by a main.

DOMESTIC WATER SUPPLIES

PARISH	Number of Dwellings on 31.12.70	Number in Column (a) served by			Population served by mains			Estimated Parish Population
		MAINS		Wells, Springs, etc. (d)	Direct to house (e)	Stand-pipes (f)	Total (g)	
		Direct to house (b)	Stand-pipes (c)					
BRAMSHOTT	1,871	1,841	16	14	7,121	51	7,172	7,216
BURITON	297	273	5	19	850	16	866	926
CLANFIELD	690	683	2	5	2,172	6	2,178	2,194
COLEMORE AND PRIORSDEAN	67	61	6	-	161	19	180	180
EAST MEON	351	340	-	11	1,430	-	1,430	1,465
FROXFIELD	293	288	4	1	926	13	939	942
GREATTHAM	168	164	4	-	549	13	562	562
HAWKLEY	148	148	-	-	472	-	472	472
HORNDEAN	2,974	2,950	22	2	8,080	70	8,150	8,156
LANGRISH	94	94	-	-	311	-	311	311
LISS	1,550	1,540	10	-	5,045	32	5,077	5,077
ROWLANDS CASTLE	764	763	1	-	2,132	3	2,135	2,135
STEEP	338	324	5	9	859	16	875	904
TOTALS:	9,605	9,469	75	61	30,108	239	30,347	30,540

Figures in Column (g) are obtained by multiplying figures in Column (d) by an average population per house and deducting the result from Column (h). Figures in Column (f) are obtained by multiplying figures in Column (c) by the same figure.

N.B. This table includes figures for caravans and moveable dwellings.

Rivers and Streams

The main rivers and streams are as follows:-

- (1) The River Wey which passes through Bramshott parish and collects the discharge of water from Waggoners Wells.
- (2) The River Rother which passes through the parish of Hawkley, forms part of the boundary between Greatham and Hawkley and then passes through the parish of Liss.
- (3) The River Meon which flows through the parish of East Meon and passes into Droxford Rural District at West Meon.

The district resolves itself into three separate drainage areas:-

- (a) Sussex River Authority area
Sussex River Authority,
Anston House, 137-139 Preston Road,
Brighton (Tel: BRIGHTON 507101)
- (b) Thames above Teddington area
Thames Conservancy Board,
River Purification No.7 District,
Ladymead Offices, By-Pass Road,
Guildford (Tel: GUILDFORD 64749)
- (c) Hampshire River Authority area
Hampshire River Authority,
The Castle,
Winchester (Tel: WINCHESTER 4411)

Rainfall

The average rainfall figure for Petersfield over the last eight years is 943.81 millimetres (37.13 inches).

The Council are grateful to Mr. Bourne of 4 Forest Lane Close, Liphook who has kindly agreed to supply future rainfall figures and to Portsmouth Water Company, the Mid Southern Water Company and Petersfield Urban District Council who have also been good enough to supply us with figures.

Rainfall figures for 1970 are set out in millimetres in the following table:

RAINFALL, 1970

1970	LIPHOOK	SHEET	PETERSFIELD	DITCHAM PARK	CATHERINGTON	IDSWORTH	LEYDENE
JANUARY	175.8	140.2	134.5	148.8	144.2	133.5	144.24
FEBRUARY	87.9	75.3	68.7	93.4	81.5	82.8	88.1
MARCH	57.4	55.2	52.8	61.6	53.2	46.4	48.3
APRIL	78.2	57.0	67.0	63.8	61.2	61.5	75.7
MAY	23.6	23.0	24.6	26.4	36.3	32.5	27.72
JUNE	33.4	19.7	29.3	41.4	37.1	33.6	40.01
JULY	58.7	70.8	73.6	70.4	73.2	59.4	73.4
AUGUST	81.5	80.2	87.9	84.3	63.6	62.8	68.2
SEPTEMBER	116.0	84.1	108.0	91.4	87.6	82.0	89.0
OCTOBER	20.0	19.8	24.1	32.6	31.0	28.4	25.7
NOVEMBER	284.15	274.6	*398.8	263.8	258.8	259.2	250.42
DECEMBER	28.66	38.9	39.4	25.0	38.5	35.0	49.25
TOTALS:	1045.31	938.8	1108.7	1002.9	966.2	917.1	980.04

* There could have been a recording error on this occasion and a figure of 298.8 has been used in arriving at the average for the last eight years.

Pail Closet Emptying

Pail closet contents are emptied on behalf of the Council by the Cleansing Service (Southern Counties) Limited on Mondays and Thursdays in the following localities:

Bramshott	-	58	(105)
Buriton	-	5	(62)
Clanfield	-	3	(16)
East Meon	-	1	(27)
Froxfield	-	4	(10)
Greatham	-	1	(40)
Hawkley	-	4	(29)
Langrish	-	1	(12)
Liss	-	8	(10)

(N.B. Comparable figures for 1962 are shown in brackets)

In 1969, the Council approved a programme to discontinue the pail closet emptying service by December, 1974. This provided for discontinuance of 44 by December, 1971, a further 55 by December, 1973 and another 9 by December, 1974. At the time of preparation of this report, the current figures are the same for 1973 but the figures for 1971 and 1974 are 23 and 7 respectively. This is because self-contained drainage has been provided.

Public Cleansing

A roadside collection of house refuse is carried out weekly with the exception of a few addresses where access is impracticable. The collection days are as follows:

BRAMSHOTT	Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday
BURITON	Friday
CLANFIELD	Wednesday, Thursday and Friday

(cont.)

Public Cleansing - continued

COLEMORE AND PRIORSDEAN	Thursday
EAST MEON	Tuesday and Wednesday
FROXFIELD	Thursday
GREATHAM	Tuesday
HAWKLEY	Tuesday
HORNDEAN	Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday
LANGRISH	Wednesday
LISS	Thursday and Friday
ROWLANDS CASTLE	Monday
STEEP	Friday

The weekly kerbside collection throughout the district is appreciated by the public. The effect the extended service will have on the dumping of bulk refuse remains to be seen.

The Council now have Public Conveniences in Liphook, Liss and Horndean.

Very few complaints have been received in the south of the district since conveniences were provided at Horndean in 1966 and I feel that similar accommodation in the Weston area of the A.3 is the only answer to the problem just south of Petersfield.

Cesspools serving houses are emptied upon request, a charge of £2.50 per load being made where a sewer is available. When the number of emptyings per house exceeds four per financial year where no sewer is available, the charge is £1.00 per emptying.

Building Regulations require that new cesspools shall be of a capacity, measured below the level of the inlet, of not less than 4,000 gallons. The number of these larger cesspools is increasing in the same way that the number of smaller, inadequate ones is decreasing. In spite, therefore, of further main drainage provision, it seems likely that the cesspool emptying service will not be reduced for some years to come.

Offices and Shops

Generally speaking, duties under the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963 (other than provisions relating to fire) are the responsibility of the District Council and the provisions of the Shops Act, 1950 relating to hours of closing, conditions of employment and Sunday trading continue to be administered by the County Council.

REGISTRATION AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS

Class of premises	Number of premises registered during the year	Number of registered premises at end of year	Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year
Offices	2	35	12
Retail Shops	1	91	57
Wholesale shops, Warehouses	-	1	-
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	-	26	12
Fuel storage depots	-	-	-
TOTALS	3	153	81

With the co-operation of the Engineer and Surveyor, we are consulted about all new offices and shops and extensions to ensure compliance with public health requirements.

No accidents were reported during the year.

No formal action was taken during the year.

Caravan Sites

Licences have been authorised in respect of the following commercial sites:

Caravan Sites - continued

Occupier	Address of Site	Telephone	Caravans
<u>RESIDENTIAL</u>			
Mrs. E.L. Alsford	The Bird-in-Hand, Lovedean, Horndean	Horndean 2355	3
Commander R. Kemp	133 London Road, Horndean	Horndean 2592	21
Mr. F.B. Beach	St. Christophers Caravan Site, 249 London Road, Horndean	Horndean 2210	12
Mr. J.S. Jackson, Lodge Hill, Holt, Wimborne	The Oaks, Liphook Road, Greatham	-	17
<u>HOLIDAY</u>			
Mr. P.E. Holloway	White Horse Inn, Priorsdean	Tisted 387	6

Licences have also been issued in respect of individual caravans. These are valid for periods to coincide with planning permissions. Unlicensed sites continue to cause trouble. Some of them are exempted from licence requirements by the First Schedule of the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960; but, in many cases where exemption is claimed on false information, we are unable to proceed because evidence to secure a conviction is insufficient. Licensed sites gave rise to only minor problems during the year.

Sites occupied and supervised by such organisations as "The Caravan Club" are exempt from planning or licensing control, subject to a code agreed with the Minister. Similar exemptions apply to sites approved by these organisations.

Only one caravan remained on the Prospect Farm site at the end of the year. The tenant asked to be allowed to remain until the summer of 1971 and this was agreed to. (At the time of presenting this report, the site has been cleared and returned to Portsmouth Corporation).

Caravan Sites - continued

In spite of a reduction in the number of individual caravans which presented a problem, the Council decided to go ahead with a scheme for a site at Whichers Gate Road, Rowlands Castle, when Council-owned land becomes available. This scheme is again in abeyance pending an appeal against a planning decision delayed pending discussions on the South Hampshire Interim Policy Plan.

There was a steady increase in the number of back yard caravans.

The problem at Bircholt Road, Liphook, which has been the subject of reports for many years, came nearer to a solution. An adjoining land owner has now established ownership, and fenced, much of the land and is seeking title to considerably more. In the meantime, the entrance to the road has been greatly improved largely as a direct result of the Council's actions. Rehousing by the Council has led to the release of more land but there are still two occupied sites.

Bulls Copse, Horndean also featured for many years as a problem area involving shacks and caravans but this has been largely redeveloped and only infrequently does a difficulty arise under this heading.

Catherington Lith is likely to continue as a problem for many years although a few huts and caravans which became permanently occupied are dealt with under the Housing Acts. The Planning Authority are seeking new powers to control further development there.

Moveable Dwellings

Licences to erect or station and use a moveable dwelling are issued under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1939. Annual licences are issued with conditions to enforce the sanitary upkeep of the site. Seven moveable dwellings are licensed at the current time.

Schools

Routine and special visits were paid to independent schools in the area and visits were made to County controlled schools in connection with specific enquiries.

Insect Infestation

One of the major suppliers of fumigants and disinfectants provides

a free identification and advisory service in connection with insect pests and this proved most valuable when investigating complaints.

Houses suspected of being verminous are fumigated. Particular attention is paid to cases where occupants are to be moved to Council accommodation.

A record number of complaints were received where insect infestations were a threat to householders and the Department assisted in the following cases:

Wasps	-	290
Hornets	-	1
Flies	-	25
Beetles	-	5
Ants	-	15
Bees	-	16
Fleas	-	25

Flea infestations were not an uncommon cause of complaint twenty to thirty years ago but probably because of new insecticides there has been little trouble since. In recent years however, the numbers of complaints have risen to a point where they are of some concern and the figure of 25 treatments in 1970 makes one wonder whether there are new factors which need to be considered. Nearly all the infestations were by cat or dog fleas.

Wasp infestations were the highest on record and treatments were a real problem. There was a national shortage of some insecticides and many nests remained untreated. (This fact and the relatively mild winter permitted the survival of so many queens that we could not give our usual help to complainants in 1971).

INSPECTIONS AND VISITS, 1970

	TOTALS
Accumulations and Refuse	65
Bakehouses	1
Cafes	18
Caravans	373
Council Site, Prospect Farm	76
Clean Air Act, 1956	5
Drainage	227
Factories	11
Food Premises	46
Food Vans	-
Housing Applications	9
Housing (Improvement Grants)	267
Housing (Public Health and Housing Acts)	925
Housing (Qualification Certificates)	13
Ice Cream	9
Infectious Disease	146
Insect Infestation	55
Licensed Premises	24
Meat Inspection	228
Meat Shops	4
Milk and Dairies	3
Miscellaneous	280
Mosquito Control	-
Moveable Dwellings	53
National Assistance Act	52
Noise Abatement	15
Nuisances	281
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963	221
Old Metal Dealers	7
Pet Animal Shops and Animal Boarding Establishments	24
Poultry Establishments	6
Public Conveniences	26
Rodent Control	35
Sampling	32
Schools	19
Slaughterhouses and Knackers Yards	25
Unsound Food	15
Verminous or Dirty Premises	12
Water Supply	62
TOTALS:	3,675

Samples submitted for laboratory examination

Water - 37

HOUSING

Summary of work carried out under Public Health and Housing Acts

(A) HOUSES DEMOLISHED			
	Number	Displaced	
		Persons	Families
<u>In Clearance Areas</u>	—	—	—
<u>Not in Clearance Areas</u>			
Houses demolished as a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 16 or Section 17(1) of the Housing Act, 1957	15	24	5

(B) UNFIT HOUSES CLOSED OR UNDERTAKINGS ACCEPTED			
	Number	Displaced	
		Persons	Families
Under Sections 16(4), 17(1) and 35(1) of the Housing Act, 1957	7	21	8
Under Sections 17(3) and 26 of the Housing Act, 1957	—	—	—
Parts of buildings closed under Section 18 of the Housing Act, 1957	—	—	—
Housing Act, 1961 - Section 26	—	—	—

(C) UNFIT HOUSES MADE FIT AND IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE REMEDIED		
	By Owner	By L.A.
After informal action by Local Authority	38	—
After formal notice under:		
(a) Public Health Acts	—	—
(b) Sections 9 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1957	3	—
Under Section 24 of the Housing Act, 1957	1	—
Under Section 27(2) of Housing Act, 1957	4	—

(D) UNFIT HOUSES IN TEMPORARY USE (HOUSING ACT, 1957)

NIL

(E) PURCHASE OF HOUSES BY AGREEMENT

NIL

Action under Statutory Powers during the year

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 12 of the Housing Act, 1957:-

- (i) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs NIL
- (ii) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices
- (1) By owners NIL
- (2) By Local Authority in default of owners NIL

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts:-

- (i) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied NIL
- (ii) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices
- (1) By owners NIL
- (2) By Local Authority in default of owners NIL

(c) Proceedings under Sections 16, 17, 18 and 23 of the Housing Act, 1957 and Section 26 of the Housing Act, 1961:-

- (i) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made 5
- (ii) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made 4
- (iii) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders and otherwise 15
- (iv) Number of dwelling houses closed in pursuance of an Undertaking given by the owner under Section 16 .. 3
- (v) Number of dwelling houses closed under Section 26 previously included in Demolition Orders under Sections 16 and 17 NIL

Housing - continued

(d) Overcrowding:-

Statutory notices served during the year regarding
overcrowding NIL

Housing Conditions

The Housing Act, 1969 made provision, for the first time, for the comprehensive treatment of all aspects of housing problems, whether in the structures themselves, in the method of occupation, in the services provided or the quality of the environment.

The Dennington Report of 1966 - "Our Older Homes - A call for action" made clear the economic advantages of not leaving sub-standard houses to rot. The Government supported this view and their intentions, published as a White Paper in April, 1968, were ultimately enacted in the Housing Act, 1969. This Council supports the policy of grant aid and I have been responsible for its administration since September, 1970.

It was apparent that, for the scheme to succeed, information and advice needed to be readily available. This was achieved by combining a local informatory "hand-out" with initial government publicity booklets. This, linked with the ready co-operation of staff involved, proved to be very successful and resulted in the maximum number of grant applications with which we could cope. Some details about grant aid appear later in the report.

The Act made it the duty of every Local Authority to cause an inspection to be made of their district from time to time to determine what action should be taken under the Housing Acts and, in this district, the survey will initially take the form of an assessment of "FITNESS GRADES" and "AMENITIES", with the object not only of making houses "fit" but of achieving a good standard of modern amenities, if necessary with grant aid.

It is now not necessary for a house to be "unfit for human habitation" before a Local Authority can require repairs to be done. A Council may take action if substantial repairs are required to bring the house up to a reasonable standard, having regard to its age, character and locality.

The standard of fitness for judging houses as set out in Section 4 of the 1957 Act has been varied to include "internal arrangement" but the lack of a food store has no longer to be taken into account.

Apart from these minor changes, the standards of fitness have not changed materially since 1957 but, in the past decade, there has been major rethinking about what amenities in a house are necessary for good health rather than

Housing Conditions - continued

merely pleasant environmental aids.

The new standard is set out in a booklet issued by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government ("House Improvement and Rents - A Guide for Landlords and Tenants"):-

- (1) The house must have all the standard amenities for the exclusive use of the occupants, viz -
 - (a) Bath
 - (b) Wash hand basin
 - (c) Sink
 - (d) Hot water supply to (a), (b) and (c)
 - (e) W.C.
- (2) It must be in good repair having regard to the age, character and locality.
- (3) It must be fit for human habitation, i.e. reasonably suitable for occupation having regard to repair and stability, freedom from damp, internal arrangement, natural lighting, ventilation, water supply, drainage and sanitary conveniences and facilities for the preparation and cooking of food and for the disposal of waste water.

Information about standard grants appears later in the report.

The Act also provides a system whereby "controlled tenancies" can be converted to "regulated tenancies" and fair rents fixed by the Rent Officer. This can be done when a dwelling is improved to the new standard and involves the issue of a "qualification certificate". The Council has authorised me to deal with qualification certificates and certificates of provisional approval.

Information about grants

(1) Discretionary Grants

These are grants made by local Councils to help owners to improve old houses to a good standard, or to provide dwellings either by converting houses of an unsatisfactory size, or by converting non-residential buildings to a housing use. They are called discretionary grants because they are made at the Council's discretion.

The Council may pay up to one half of the estimated cost of modernisation (including professional fees) as approved by them, subject to a maximum grant

Discretionary Grants - continued

of £1,000 for each house improved or for each dwelling provided by conversion. Where, however, flats are provided by the conversion of a house or building of three or more storeys, the upper limit of grant is £1,200 for each flat.

To qualify for discretionary grant, a dwelling must reach a high standard and must comply with twelve points set out in the Act and reproduced in the publicity "handouts".

For the first time, "approved expense" may include works of repair or replacement incidental to an improvement or needed to make an improvement fully effective.

During the first twelve months of operation of the 1969 Act, 24 discretionary grants were approved at an average of £553.70 per dwelling.

During the second twelve months, the totals were 47 grants at an average of £582.00 per dwelling.

(2) Standard Grant

These are grants made by local Councils to help meet the cost of improving houses by providing, for the first time, any missing standard amenities. The standard amenities are a:

- (a) fixed bath or shower in a bathroom
- (b) wash hand basin
- (c) sink
- (d) hot and cold water supply at a:
 - (i) fixed bath or shower
 - (ii) wash hand basin
 - (iii) sink
- (e) water closet

The Council will pay half the cost of the improvement works (including professional fees), subject to a normal maximum of £200 for providing all five improvements for the first time and a lower maximum in other cases. To calculate the maximum for a particular case, add together the amounts shown against those of the items in the list below which have to be provided.

Fixed bath or shower	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	£30
Wash hand basin	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	£10
Sink	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	£15

(cont.)

Standard Grants - continued

Hot and cold water supply at a fixed bath or shower ..	£45
Hot and cold water supply at a wash hand basin	£20
Hot and cold water supply at a sink	£30
Water closet.. .. .	£50

In certain circumstances, involving extra specified works, the grant is subject to an overall maximum of £450 instead of the normal £200.

Twelve standard grants were approved in the first twelve months at an average cost of £201.58. During the second twelve months, the totals were sixteen grants at an average of £195.63 per dwelling.

(3) Special Grants

These relate to shared amenities in houses in multiple occupation and have little impact in this district.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

Food Hygiene

Details of premises subject to Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960 - grouped in categories of trade carried on:-

Premises	Sub-Groups	(i)	(ii)	(iii)	(iv)
SHOPS	Grocery and General Provisions	62	62	45	45
	Butchers	12	12	12	12
	Bakers	8	8	8	8
	Fishmongers	3	3	3	3
	Greengrocers	6	6	6	6
CATERING ESTABLISHMENTS	Hotels	6	6	6	6
	Public Houses	38	38	38	38
	Cafes	10	10	10	10
	Licensed Clubs	9	9	9	9
	Other Clubs and Village Institutes	12			
	Fish and Chip Shops	1	1	1	1
CANTEENS	Hospitals and Nursing Homes	5	5	5	5
	Works Canteens	4	4	4	4
	Schools (Private)	5	5	5	5
	Schools (L.A.)	16	16	16	16

Column (i) - the number of premises

Column (ii) - the number of premises fitted to comply with Regulation 16 relating to wash hand basins

Column (iii) - the number of premises to which Regulation 19 applies relating to facilities for washing food and equipment

Column (iv) - the number of premises fitted to comply with Regulation 19

Milk Supply

There are fifteen distributors of milk registered by this Council under the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959.

Dealers' licences to sell pre-packed milk are issued under the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1963 (Pasteurised, Sterilised, Untreated) and the Milk (Special Designation)(Amendment) Regulations, 1965 (Ultra Heat Treated). These licences are issued under powers delegated to the Rural District Council by and on behalf of the Hampshire County Council.

Dealers' licences to sell pre-packed milk	16
Dealers' licences to use the designation "Pasteurised"	14
Dealers' licences to use the designation "Sterilised"	6
Dealers' licences to use the designation "Untreated"	-
Dealers' licences to use the designation "Ultra Heat Treated" ..	9

These licences remain in force until the 31st December, 1975.

Meat and Other Foods

Meat shops in the area were well maintained and, in general, meat was of good quality and well handled.

Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 provides for the registration of all premises used for:-

- (a) The sale, or manufacture for the purpose of sale, of ice cream, or the storage of ice cream intended for sale, or
- (b) The preparation or manufacture of sausages or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food intended for sale.

There are 91 premises in this district currently registered and selling ice cream and 19 premises are registered for the preservation of food.

Slaughterhouses

There is now only one slaughterhouse in the district licensed under the Slaughterhouses Act, 1958.

Knacker's Yards

There are two premises in the district licensed as Knacker's Yards under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

Licensing of Slaughtermen

Persons employed as slaughtermen are required to be licensed under the Slaughter of Animals Act, 1958. Licences are issued for a yearly period. When slaughtermen first hold a licence, they are required to work under supervision (Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) Regulations, 1958). There are thirteen slaughtermen licensed by this Council at the present time.

Meat Inspection

The following table shows animals killed and inspected with carcasses, part carcasses and organs condemned:-

Messrs. W.T. Pescott and Son, Horndean

	Cattle excluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	240	129	5	922	36
Number inspected	240	129	5	922	36
<u>All diseases except T.B.</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned ..	—	—	—	—	—
Weights	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	72	81	1	24	5
Weights	879 lb.	970 lb.	4 lb.	38 lb.	57 lb.
Percentage of the number inspected affected with diseases other than T.B.	30.00%	62.79%	20.00%	2.60%	13.87%
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned ..	—	—	—	—	—
Weights	—	—	—	—	—
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	—	—	—	—	1
Weights	—	—	—	—	10 lb.

Details of other condemned food

	lb.
Canned meats	10
Other canned foods	-
Cooked meat and meat products	-
Frozen meat and meat products	77½
Frozen fish and fish products	121½
Frozen poultry and poultry products .	34
Frozen vegetables	92
Frozen fruit	8
Ice Cream	23½
Other frozen foods	36
TOTAL:	402½

Poultry

There are three premises in the district at which substantial quantities of poultry are slaughtered for the food market:-

(1) The birds dealt with at this address are not primarily table poultry. They are egg producing birds which have gone "off lay" and whole hen houses are cleared at a time. They may be battery hens, deep litter hens or hens kept on wire netting. The birds are killed with an electric stunning knife immediately upon being taken from the crates. They are plucked, stubbed, cooled and refrigerated and delivered daily to a poultry processing establishment at Chichester where supervision is taken over by Chichester Rural District Council. Throughput - approximately 2,000 birds weekly.

(2) This is a poultry rearing establishment dealing with approximately 2,000 birds a week, of which 200 are slaughtered, plucked and refrigerated for Kosher trade in Southampton where they are eviscerated and a few are sold locally. About 500 birds a week are dispatched live for Kosher killing in Bournemouth; a further 36 birds are slaughtered, plucked, dressed and dispatched to shops in Portsmouth. Most of the production is of poussins, although the proprietor also rears ducks and a few breeding stock hens. Of those eviscerated on the premises, approximately 0.5% were rejected as unfit for human consumption.

(3) The birds dealt with are 8 to 10 week old capons weighing 4-7 lbs.

Poultry - continued

The proprietor slaughters about 150 each week as well as 20 to 25 "off lay" battery hens. They are all electrically stunned and bled on the premises where they are also machine plucked, hand stubbed and cooled before being delivered "off the hook" to butchers within a ten mile radius. Only about a dozen a week are eviscerated on the premises for local sales and there is a substantial turkey trade at holiday times and at Christmas (1,500 birds).

Adulterations

The Hampshire County Council is the Food and Drugs Authority and is responsible for the administration of the Sections of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, which place restrictions on the addition to, or abstraction of substances from, food and drugs.

I am indebted to Mr. J.S. Preston, Chief Inspector of Weights and Measures, Litton Lodge, Clifton Road, Winchester (Tel: Winchester 4411) for the following information on samples taken in the district during the year:-

"During the year ended the 31st March, 1971, 135 samples were procured under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, within the area of the Petersfield Rural District Council.

Milk Samples

118 samples of milk, including 28 of "Channel Islands" were obtained, eleven being the subject of adverse reports.

The complaints were in respect of:-

- (1) A one pint of Channel Islands milk which had been opened was submitted following a consumer complaint that it contained insect larva. As it could not be positively established that the larva had been subjected to heat treatment - as in a milk processing plant - there was the possibility of the milk having become contaminated after the removal of the bottle cap. Due to these circumstances, legal action could not be taken.
- (2-6) Five samples of Guernsey milk taken from a producer-retailer were found to be unsatisfactory. The first two samples were from pint bottles intended for retail sale and these showed results of 10% added water; the second sample had 3% added water and was 16%

deficient of fat. Further checks were made when three pint bottles were obtained and these were unsatisfactory as follows, 2% added water, 4% added water and 9% deficient of fat. A sample from a churn taken on the same occasion and other samples procured subsequently were satisfactory. Legal proceedings were instituted, five summonses being issued, three for added water and two in relation to the deficiency in fat content. Fines and costs amounted to £47.90.

- (7) A sample of ordinary milk procured from a 10 gallon churn at a wholesale dairy was found to be unsatisfactory. Follow-up official samples were taken at the producer's farm from 22 churns of milk awaiting delivery to the dairy. On average, the consignment was above the minimum standard for fat and therefore did not call for further action.
- (8 & 9) Two samples of ordinary milk were obtained on separate occasions from a farm tank containing approximately 14 gallons. On both occasions, the antibiotics (penicillin) present amounted to 0.07 international units per millilitre. The owner of the farm appeared to be unaware that penicillin had been used on the cows but there was no doubt that some of the herd had been treated and the milk had not been withheld for the requisite period, to allow the contamination to clear. As the proportion of antibiotics was only slightly in excess of the permitted 0.05 international units, further action was not considered necessary.
- (10) Following a consumer complaint, an unopened pint bottle of milk was submitted to the Analyst as it was seen to contain a coloured object. The object proved to consist of a small plastic toy. Legal proceedings were instituted which resulted in a fine of £10 together with £10.65 costs.
- (11) A further consumer complaint concerned a pint bottle of milk which contained numerous small dark coloured objects on the inside of the bottle. Analysis showed that these marks consisted of mould growth. Legal proceedings were instituted which resulted in a fine of £50.00 and costs of £15.65.

Miscellaneous Samples

17 samples of articles other than milk were obtained, all of which were found to be satisfactory.

General

The usual attention was given to the requirements of the Labelling of Food Order and the Pharmacy and Medicines Act with regard to the labelling of food and drugs. No complaints of consequence occurred."

RODENT CONTROL

Rodent Control in the area is carried out by Council staff, by private servicing companies and by local rat catchers.

For some years now, the Council's service has been free to both domestic and business premises. The Council employs two Rodent Operators, who normally work independently but assist one another from time to time. Training and considerable experience are necessary before an Operator can work efficiently.

Early notification of infestation is the answer to successful control and we seek the co-operation of all concerned to ensure the maintenance of a reasonable service.

We recorded no case of warfarin resistance during the year, although it certainly seemed that individual treatments against mice were more prolonged.

No complaints were received in respect of treatment and it was not necessary to serve any statutory notices during the year under the Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949.

The following table gives details of inspections and treatments for the year 1970 N.B. Local Authority's properties:- Council houses are included under dwelling houses. Premises occupied in connection with the Council's undertaking are included under this heading.

Combined dwelling and business premises occupied by the same person are included under business premises.

Farms, smallholdings, poultry farms and other premises devoted to commercial agriculture or horticulture are included under agricultural property and not under business premises.

Unclassified property:- properties which do not appropriately fall under other classifications are included under business premises.

Degree of infestation:- "major" includes only properties with an estimated rat population exceeding twenty rats.

Treatment means a complete operation for the destruction of rats or mice in the property.

R O D E N T C O N T R O L	T Y P E O F P R O P E R T Y				
	Non-Agricultural				Agricul- tural
	Local Authority (1)	Dwelling Houses (2)	All other (including business premises) (3)	Totals of Columns (1)(2)(3) (4)	
Number of properties in Local Authority's district	16	8,885	1,040	9,741	620
Number of <u>properties inspected</u> as a result of <u>notification</u> :	9	444	97	550	125
Number of such properties found to be infested by:					
Common RAT - Major	-	1	-	1	13
- Minor	5	332	70	407	102
House MOUSE - Major	-	-	-	-	-
- Minor	4	79	27	110	10
Number of <u>properties inspected</u> in the course of <u>survey under</u> <u>the Act</u> :	78	1,017	172	1,267	368
Number of such properties found to be infested by:					
Common RAT - Major	-	-	-	-	4
- Minor	41	419	84	544	232
House MOUSE - Major	-	-	1	1	2
- Minor	4	104	45	153	35
Number of <u>properties otherwise</u> <u>inspected</u> (e.g. when visited primarily for some other purpose)	15	50	97	162	10
Number of such properties found to be infested by:					
Common RAT - Major	-	-	-	-	-
- Minor	-	10	2	12	7
House MOUSE - Major	-	-	-	-	-
- Minor	-	2	4	6	-
Total number of properties inspected	102	1,511	366	1,979	503
Number of infested properties	53	943	232	1,228	416
Number of "Block" control schemes carried out	-	-	-	-	-

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS

The Animal Boarding Establishments Act, 1963 requires all premises used for boarding animals to be licensed. Licences are issued yearly and a fee of £2 is payable. There are at present eight premises licensed under this Act for the boarding of a total of 64 cats and 249 dogs. Before a licence is issued, the premises are inspected in the company of an R.S.P.C.A. Inspector and I would like to put on record my thanks to them for their help at this stage and with the sorting out of difficulties which arise from time to time.

SCRAP METAL DEALERS

Ten dealers are currently registered with the Council under the Scrap Metal Dealers Act, 1964. Registration is for a period not exceeding three years and each certificate issued carries the endorsement that registration does not imply that planning permission has been sought or obtained in respect of land used for this purpose. The Planning Office and the Police are kept informed.

FACTORIES

Mr. R.W. Midworth is H.M. Inspector of Factories for the Portsmouth District, which includes the Petersfield Rural District. His address is 42b Market Parade, Havant (Tel: Havant 71531/2)

Inspections under the Factories Act, 1961 for purposes as to health:

Premises	Number on register	Inspections	Number of written notices
(1) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are enforced by the Local Authority	-	-	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	62	11	-
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ..	-	-	-
TOTALS:	62	11	-

